

CHAL 080  
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2 December 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Materiel Branch, DPD

SUBJECT: Camera Heater/Blowers

1. The Air Force unit at Del Rio recently experienced a malfunction of the camera heater/blower system on the U-2 which could have caused serious equipment damage. In the Del Rio incident, the blower system failed, but the heater continued to operate. This concentrated heat, without deflection or dissipation from the blowers, caused blistering of paint on cameras installed at the time. There would also be the increased possibility of a fire in the equipment bay if the heaters continued to operate for a prolonged period.

2. It has been determined that we gain an increase in photographic quality if the heater/blower system is left on during a photo mission. This tends to stabilize temperature within the equipment bay and reduce expansion and contraction of camera parts.

3. In order to eliminate the possibility of camera heaters being operated if a blower failure is experienced, recommend that a "fail-safe" feature be incorporated in the wiring circuit which would stop the heaters if blower system fails, or vice versa.

STANLEY W. BEERLI  
Colonel USAF  
Chief, Operations Branch, DPD

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2 December 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Chief, DPD

THROUGH: Chief, Materiel Branch, DPD

SUBJECT: U-2 Handbook Revision

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1. During a visit to Headquarters by [ ] Hycon, on 2 December 1959, that portion of the current U-2 Handbook which deals with camera configurations and procedures was discussed. This portion of the handbook is in need of revision, and [ ] was requested to review subject data with a view of incorporating the latest data at the next handbook revision meeting.

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2. [ ] was requested to coordinate attendance of a Hycon representative at the next handbook revision meeting with [ ] at [ ]

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[ ]

STANLEY W. BEERLI  
Colonel USAF  
Chief, Operations Branch, DPD

NOTED:

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12/2/59 SIGNED

[ ]  
Chief, Materiel Branch, DPD

RSQ

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- 3 - Mat/DPD
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This document contains information  
relating to the U-2 program  
which is classified as SECRET

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